

Glad You Asked!

Q. What is the MOU that Chapter Directors sign and what is its purpose?

A. *The M.O.U. (Memorandum of Understanding) is an agreement between two parties in the form of a legal document. All Operations Officers sign an M.O.U. including the Director of GWRRA, Region Directors and Assistants, District Directors and Assistants, as well as Chapter Directors and Assistants. It contains several elements which GWRRA Officers are responsible for. It includes discussion of the Officers probationary period, requirement to select a treasurer and to wear the 10" patch, financial responsibilities of their office, and protection of GWRRA copyrighted materials. It also includes expectations to be familiar with GWRRA Member benefits and to support and encourage others to support the various programs, to be a current Member, awareness of and to guard the privacy of member information, timely sharing of information, and adherence to the Officer Handbook. But wait – there's more! An Officer is expected to assist their Appointing Officer, to strive to meet all requirements of the office, and in the case of a Chapter Director, arrange for a monthly gathering place and to provide appropriate programs and activities, as referred to in the Officer's Handbook and Fun Activity Guide - essentially to establish a FUN environment with emphasis on fun-related activities. A Chapter Director must also provide monthly newsletters to GWRRA members free of charge. The M.O.U. also requires the Officer to employ the TEAM approach, to train his/her replacement, set a good example, demonstrate a positive attitude, and turn over all monies and property to his/her successor. Finally, Rider Education Officers are required to sign the M.O.U. but there are 4 specific sections that do not apply to them (appointing a secretary and financial responsibilities, and newsletter and gathering place responsibilities).*

Most of the responsibilities are really not too difficult, but the M.O.U. does set a standard for the GWRRA Officer that is the foundation of making this Association one that promotes Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge.